

The idea of bringing tolls back to CT is not in the best interests of the residents, or the traffic congestion it will cause. In southwestern CT the secondary/side roads are already overflowing with by vehicles trying to avoid the traffic on RT 95, The old parts of RT 7, and the extension, and RT 84. There are many who get off the Merritt Parkway and find side routes. These current secondary/side roads will be further impacted by drivers trying to avoid the tolls. The tabulation and collecting of tolls will only add to an already overpopulated state employee situation, which as we know is part of the serious financial situation the state finds itself in. We already have some of the highest fuel taxes in the country, a fact not lost on residents, who pay for most of that. Putting tolls on CT interstates will only hurt the residents more financially as they would probably be the drivers using those locations more often.

A number of years ago CT gave up on tolls for a number of reasons, one being safety a result of some terrible accidents. Another reason, perhaps even more obvious today are environmental issues from spilled fuel and emissions.. Vehicles now stopped for traffic jams, and there are many in SW CT, lines of cars on side roads, or now the suggestion of tolls, create a lot more pollutants than a vehicle moving at highway speeds. That is why car makers put two fuel usage estimates on the window sticker.

Tolls are not the answer, they are really just another way to tax residents and those passing through. The real answer is reducing the size of government to put into financial balance with the real needs of the residents. It will just put another nail in the coffin as a reason for residents to leave the state.

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